

November 27, 2013

To: Keeper of the Register
National Park Service
Washington, D.C.

We, Kiyoshi and Jane Ikeda, strongly support the nomination of Ewa Battlefield to the National Historic Register. The attack on Ewa Battlefield on December 7, 1941, as part of the Pearl Harbor attack, played an important, significant part on local, state, and the national level.

The Ewa Battlefield attack not only included the military sites outside of Ewa Plantation (now known as Ewa Villages), but the Ewa Plantation and the adjacent Hawaii Railway station.

“On December 7, 1941, I, Kiyoshi Ikeda, was a thirteen year old youngster very much interested in the military planes flying in and out of the nearby airfields.

I lived in Mill Village, right off Renton Road, which was the main through street in Ewa. I learned to identify and distinguish the various planes from each other.

On the morning of December 7, 1941, I heard and saw some unfamiliar planes coming from the direction of the airfields. It confused me for some moment but then I realized that the planes were Japanese planes as I recognized the red insignia on them.

I started waving at the plane that flew right above my home but soon realized that I was being shot at when I heard the “zing” of the flying bullets.

I ran and had just reached our front door when I felt a shot to my left. It missed me but left an everlasting hole on our doorway. Until my last visit to my home in Mill Village (Ewa Plantation), I always thought of that moment on December 7, 1941, with that bullet hole on the front entry as a reminder.”

Although seventy-two years would have passed on December 7, 2013 since the attack on the Ewa Battlefield, by placing the Ewa Battlefield on the Register, it will be partly in lasting remembrance of our Ewa neighbors and friends who were injured and killed on December 7, 1941.

We ask that the Ewa Battlefield nomination be approved.

With Much Respect and Aloha,

Kiyoshi Ikeda, Ph.D., Sociology

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